



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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Sensenbrenner Statement Regarding Justice Department Inspector General's Report Concerning the Brandon Mayfield Investigation

Report Finds No "Evidence that the FBI Misused Any of the Provisions of the Patriot Act"

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of Justice's independent Inspector General (IG) released a report <http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/special/s0601/final.pdf> today on its in-depth investigation into the circumstances that led to the inaccurate identification of Brandon Mayfield, a Portland attorney, as a participant in the 2004 Madrid train bombings. The IG's report states, "We did not find any evidence that the FBI misused any of the provisions of the Patriot Act in conducting its investigation of Mayfield." House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.) released the following statement:

"Today's report should finally end the baseless accusation lodged by PATRIOT Act opponents that federal law enforcement officials used this anti-terrorism law to violate the civil liberties of Brandon Mayfield. Today's report confirms that what occurred was unfortunate and regrettable – and not due to the PATRIOT Act. The IG's investigation concludes that not a single PATRIOT Act provision was used improperly, let alone abused.

"Extensive congressional hearings, briefings, and document review have produced no substantiated evidence of abuse of the PATRIOT Act. The PATRIOT Act provides vital law enforcement tools to protect the American people, has been used properly over the past four-plus years, and should be renewed."

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